



city of  
**greenville**

# News Release

## **GREENVILLE ZOO TO REOPEN AFTER ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

*Zoo debuts new pair of ocelots just in time for Valentine's Day*

**GREENVILLE (S.C.):** The Greenville Zoo will reopen to the general public Saturday, February 9 after two weeks of routine maintenance. Zoo staff, City of Greenville departments and volunteers used the time frame to complete renovation and construction projects within the 14-acre zoo.

Among the changes guests will notice is a newly constructed zoo ticket booth. The new booth will provide zoo staff with the ability to run three entrance lines on busier days, reducing the wait time for zoo-goers. Additional zoo maintenance projects included landscaping, updates to animal exhibits including restringing ropes for the Primate Exhibit and a complete makeover, both inside and out, for the concessions and gift shop area.

Along with the physical changes, the zoo will also introduce a young pair of ocelots to the South America Exhibit. Evita, female, from Seattle, Wash., and Oz, male, from the North Carolina Zoo, were sent to the Greenville Zoo as a breeding pair. They replace the zoo's non-breeding pair of ocelots who are now residents of the Mesker Park Zoo in Evansville, Ind.

Ocelots are endemic to Central and South America, but occasionally range as far north as Texas. Once the pair are settled, the zoo hopes they will breed and, following a gestation of around 80 days, will give birth to ocelot cubs.

**About the Greenville Zoo**

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA), Greenville Zoo is rated one of the best tourist attractions in South Carolina, attracting over 270,000 people annually. Operated by the City of Greenville, the 14-acre facility features wildlife from around the world including giraffes, monkeys, giant tortoises and elephants. Visitors can also enjoy one of the zoo's most popular exhibits, the Reptile Building, which is home to a variety of lizards, frogs, turtles and snakes.

The Greenville Zoo is open seven days a week, except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and zoo entry ticket sales close at 4:15 p.m. Admission to the Greenville Zoo is \$7.75 for adults and \$4.50 for children (ages 3 to 15). For more information about the Greenville Zoo, visit [www.greenvillezoo.com](http://www.greenvillezoo.com). Follow the zoo on Facebook at [facebook.com/greenvillezoo](https://facebook.com/greenvillezoo) and Twitter at [twitter.com/greenvillezoo](https://twitter.com/greenvillezoo).